



# Diversity Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes

**Monday, Nov 10, 2014**

**6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**The Beaverton Building**

**Members Present:** Paolo Esteban, Faridah Haron, Ali Houdroge, Edward Kimmi, Ruth Parra, Nael Saker, Mari Watanabe, Jane Yang

**Members Absent:** Samira Godil, Esther Lugalía-Imbuye, Cynthia Moffett, Shariff Mohamed, CeCe Ridder

**Staff:** Alexis Ball, Holly Thompson, City of Beaverton

**City Council Liaison:** Mark Fagin

**Guests:** Victor Sin, City of Beaverton; Cameron Whitten, Oregon Center for Human Rights; Meng Chen, community member; Maki Karakida, community member

### **Welcome and Minutes Approval**

The DAB meeting was called to order at 6:37 by Chair Nael. Minutes were reviewed and approved once enough members arrived to reach a quorum.

### **International Celebration 2015**

Victor Sin, city events coordinator, presented on the city's International Celebration and discussions about reframing and expanding it next year. The 2015 event will be its 5<sup>th</sup> year and will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>, again as part of Tualatin Hills Park & Rec's Party in the Park event. The goal of the event is to promote interaction and showcasing of cultures. Victor explained that concerns have arisen about the name not being inclusive (e.g. a Native American organization said they would not participate under the banner of "international") and not supporting a specific focus on the diverse communities that live in Beaverton. In response, a name change (e.g. Intercultural Celebration) and ideas about how to make the event more interactive and educational (e.g. World Beat Festival in Salem) are being considered. He asked the board to 1) give feedback about a name change and reframing, and 2) consider what a larger role for the DAB could look like at next year's event.

### **Intro to Oregon Center for Human Rights**

Cameron Whitten, community member invited by Mari Watanabe, presented on the Oregon Center for Human Rights. Planning for OCHR began in March 2014 and has since developed into an official non-profit with an advisory board, developing partnerships and exploring plans for a physical space. He shared the visioning statement for the new center (currently in development) and gave a brief overview of what they hope to accomplish and how it relates to the work of the DAB. The future center will serve the Portland-Metro area to "ensure the principles of equality and human rights in the region through community building, educational engagement, and cultural diplomacy." They plan to have a cultural center in downtown Portland with educational exhibits about the history of marginalized communities, promote public engagement and leadership development with diverse communities, and work with schools to develop curriculum enhanced by the history of diverse communities in Oregon. Cameron's



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goal of visiting the DAB meeting was to raise awareness about the project and encourage collaboration. He also invited the DAB to consider having a representative on the planning team for the project.

### **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Plan**

#### *Implementation, accountability language:*

Alexis shared some potential implementation and accountability language for the DEI Plan as a continuation from the discussion at last month's meeting. Holly gave context by describing and recommending the process that the Visioning Advisory Committee (VAC) took to get to an action plan, which included adoption of an initial document with overarching goals and then a year-long process of identifying community partners and timeline following initial adoption.

#### *Discuss revisions, pt. 1*

Alexis shared a Feedback Report with a summary of all feedback opportunities and comments submitted on the plan, as well as a rough version of how the revised plan will look with new sections. The group discussed the need for a few sentences explicitly stating why each key area was chosen and an explanation of why the plan emphasizes a focus on race/ethnicity. The board also discussed and decided not to create a 9<sup>th</sup> key area as proposed in some of the feedback and discussed how to incorporate some of the brand new topics suggested in feedback into the plan. Due to time constraints and several board members being absent, a decision was made to table further points until a revised version of the plan is sent out over email for feedback by board members.

### **Updates & brief discussion items**

#### *New board member recommendations, timeline*

Nael described the process of interviewing candidates for board positions. Recommendations were submitted to the Mayor and appointments for 2015 will be made at the Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

#### *Beaverton joining the Welcoming Cities and Counties Initiative*

Beaverton has recently joined Welcoming Cities and Counties, a national network focused on actively creating welcoming communities for newcomer populations and promoting immigrant integration.

#### *Booth at tree lighting event?*

The city's tree lighting event on 12/5 is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year and will be expanded this year to use the entire library space. It is a family-friendly event that expects 1,000-2,000 people in attendance. The DAB decided not to host a booth at this year's event but to consider for next year's outreach.

#### *Reminder about Rock the Block (VAC neighborhood cleanup), 11/15 9 am-noon*

#### *Other*

Jane brought a question to the group about how we can best structure agenda slots for outside presenters at DAB meetings. She expressed that often presenters come and there is not a clear ask or time to discuss follow up as a board. The board was mixed as to their desire for structured follow up discussions but overall expressed an appreciation for the presentations as educational and beneficial. A



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preference was expressed to have only 1 outside presenter per meeting and to have more preparation in advance on what their ask is of the board.

Partners in Diversity's *Say Hey!* event is Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Portland Art Museum.

The Korean Society of Oregon is having a singing contest on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Council Liaison report**

Councilor Fagin shared that a celebration took place this month to break ground at the affordable and workforce housing project at 1<sup>st</sup> and Lombard. The workforce housing piece is still coming together but plans are to have both built at the same time. He also shared that the Council will be looking at the supplemental budget next week and that there are only a few Council meetings left in 2014. Councilor Lacey Beaty was elected officially in November and Councilors Bode and San Soucie were reelected. The public safety center bond did not pass in the election, so the Beaverton police will stay where they are for now and the city will evaluate how to do repair work that can't wait.

### **Public comment**

Meng Chen is a VAC and DAB applicant, so is here to keep the pulse on what is going on with the DAB. Maki Karakida is an intern at the Office of Equity & Inclusion at the Oregon Health Authority.

### **Cultural sharing**

Cancelled due to Samira's absence.

Next meeting: Monday, Dec 8, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the Beaverton Building  
Minutes submitted by Alexis Ball in Samira Godil's absence.